THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Dr. Amartya Sen has at various times dealt with agriculture and allied issues. They include, *inter alia,* hunger, malnourishment; land reforms, incomes of farmers, trade issues etc. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation through its plans and programmes is addressing some of the issues which fall within its domain. Information of other departments under this ministry and of other ministries will be supplied later on.

Pulses Technology Mission

3869. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of pulses in the country each year, during the last three years, in comparison to their consumption;

(b) whether pulses are imported;

(c) if so, the quantity of pulses imported each year during the last three years and the value thereof;

(d) the work, so far, done by the Pulses Technology Mission to raise the production of pulses in the country and also to check its import;

(e) whether Government are satisfied with the performance of the Pulses Technology Mission; and

(f) if so, the other measures proposed to be taken to raise the production of pulses in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The total production and estimated domestic consumption of pulses in the country during the year 2001 -02 to 2003-04, are as under:

(Lakh Tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption
2001-02	133.7	154.25
2002-03	111.3	129.87
2003-04	149.4	168.36

Note: The yearly total domestic consumption has been estimated as production + net import (import-export).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The quantity of pulses imported during the last three years from 2001-02 to 2003-04 along with the value are as under:

Year	Quantity (Lakh Tonnes)	Value (Rs. in crores)
2001-02	22.18	3160.16
2002-03	19.93	2737.09
2003-04	17.01	2251.15

(d) to (f) The pulses were brought under Technology Mission in 1990 and a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "National Pulses Development Project" (NPDP) was launched to increase production of pulses in the country. As a result of concerted efforts by the Technology Mission, the production of pulses has increased from 12.86 million tonnes in 1989-90 to 14.94 million tonnes in 2003-04. Similarly, the area under pulses also increased from 23.41 million ha. in 1989-90 to 26.23 million ha. in 2003-04.

In order to provide flexibility to the States on regionally differentiated approach and to provide focused approach in implementation of the programmes a Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major pulses growing States in the country. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phoshpate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolmite, distribution of sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, publicity, etc. in order to encourage the farmers to grow pulse crops on a large scale. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demostration and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR.